

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01193 201841Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-12 NRC-05 OMB-01 /077 W
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R 201812Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5047
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
CINC USNAVEUR LONDON
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
CNO WASHDC
CINC LANTFLT NORFOLK
COMSUBLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01193

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MNUC, GW
SUBJECT: NPW VISITS TO FRG PORTS

REFS: (A) 77 STATE 201436
(B) 77 BONN 08348

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM THE FRG
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (FMOD) THAT THE FINANCE MINISTRY
HAS AGREED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDE THE FRG
COASTAL LAENDER WITH A "SAVE HARMLESS" GUARANTEE IN
AN EFFORT TO MEET THE BOND REQUIREMENT OF THE LAENDER
LAWS WITH RESPECT TO VISITS BY U.S. NUCLEAR POWERED
WARSHIPS (NPW) TO THEIR PORTS. THE MINISTRY EXPECTS,
ON BEHALF OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT' TO ADDRESS LETTERS
TO THE LAENDER AUTHORITIES BY END OF JANUARY AND HOPES
THAT THE LAENDER RESPONSES WILL MAKE A FINAL RESOLUTION
OF THE LONG-STANDING QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE POSSIBLE IN
THE NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 BONN 01193 201841Z

1. EMBOFF ASKED REP OF FRG FMOD (HUBER) WHERE MATTERS
STOOD ON THE EFFORT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
RESOLVE THE LONG-STANDING PROBLEM POSED BY THE REQUIRE-
MENTS OF THE COASTAL LAENDER THAT A DM 500 MILLION
BOND BE POSTED EVERY TIME AN NPW VISITS A GERMAN PORT
IN THOSE COASTAL LAENDER.

2. HUBER STATED THAT VERY RECENTLY THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE HAD GIVEN ITS CONSENT FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE THE COASTAL LAENDER WITH A GUARANTEE WITH RESPECT TO ALL VISITS BY US NPW'S THAT WOULD, IN EFFECT, HAVE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COSTS ENSUING FROM ANY NUCLEAR INCIDENT INVOLVING THE REACTOR OF A US NPW. THE WILLINGNESS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS PREMISED ON THE PAST ASSURANCES CONVEYED BY THE EMBASSY.

3. THE FMOD WAS WORKING ON A LETTER THAT WOULD BE SENT TO EACH COASTAL LAND TO CONVEY THIS GUARANTEE, URGING THAT IT BE ACCEPTED BY THESE LAENDER AS FULFILLING THEIR BOND REQUIREMENT. THERE HAD BEEN MANY LEGAL HURDLES TO OVERCOME, BUT IT APPEARED THAT THESE MATTERS HAD NOW BEEN CLARIFIED WITHIN THE FINANCE MINISTRY. HUBER STATED THAT WITH THE OVERCOMING OF THIS MAJOR HURDLE HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE QUESTION COULD BE RESOLVED FOR ALL FUTURE VISITS BY US NPW'S AND THAT THE JURY-RIGGED PROCEDURE EMPLOYED IN THE PAST TO PERMIT US NPW VISITS WOULD NOT BE NEEDED MUCH LONGER.

4. THE EMBASSY WILL, AS APPROPRIATE, FOLLOW UP THIS MATTER AS A MEANS OF CONVEYING TO THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES INVOLVED THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF THE USG IN THE
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PAGE 03 BONN 01193 201841Z

RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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